

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 93-654-C - ORDER NO. 93-1133/

DECEMBER 10, 1993

IN RE:	Application of South Carolina Metronet)	ORDER
	for an Extension of its Service Area Into)	GRANTING
	Jasper, Hampton, and Beaufort Counties)	INTERIM
	in Rural Service Area (RSA) No. 8.)	AUTHORITY

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the "Commission") on the Application of South Carolina Metronet ("Metronet" or the "Applicant") for an extension of its service area into Jasper, Hampton, and Beaufort Counties in South Carolina Rural Service Area No. 8. Metronet currently provides cellular telecommunications service to Charleston, Dorchester, and Berkeley Counties which are in the Charleston Metropolitan Statistical Area ("MSA"), and has been granted interim authority by the Federal Communications Commission ("F.C.C.") to extend its service into Rural Service Area ("RSA") No. 8, which adjoins the Charleston MSA. The Application states that the extension of this service area will cease with the expiration of its interim F.C.C. authority. The Company's Application was filed pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. §58-11-120 (1976), as amended, and R.103-821 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure.

By letter, the Commission's Executive Director instructed the Applicant to publish, one time, a prepared Notice of Filing in newspapers of general circulation in the affected area and to

provide the Commission's Executive Director with proof of publication. The Notice of Filing indicated the nature on the Application and advised all interested parties of the manner and time in which to file the appropriate pleadings for participation in the proceedings. The Applicant complied with the notice requirement and provided the Commission with the proper Affidavits of publication. No Protests or Petitions to Intervene were received with regard to this Application.

As part of its Application, the Applicant also filed with this Commission documentation from the F.C.C indicating that it has received interim authority from the F.C.C to provide service to the South Carolina RSA No. 8.

Based on the Application, the prefiled testimony from the Applicant, and the applicable law, the Commission makes the following findings and conclusions of law:

1. Applicant is a South Carolina corporation and is a wholly-owned subsidiary of GTE Mobile Communications Incorporated, a Delaware corporation.

2. Applicant is currently certificated by this Commission to provide cellular radio telecommunications services in the Charleston MSA. See, Commission Order No. 88-79 dated January 15, 1988, from Docket No. 87-214-C.

3. Applicant has now been granted interim authority by the F.C.C to extend service into RSA No. 8 which adjoins the Charleston MSA where Applicant is the non-wireline cellular provider. The basis for the F.C.C. action is that there is currently no non-wireline carrier licensed to provide service in RSA No. 8 and

that Applicant can extend service into RSA No. 8 with a minimum of expense. The authority granted by the F.C.C. is interim authority only and will expire when a non-wireline carrier is licensed for RSA No. 8.

4. Pursuant to and consistent with the interim authority issued by the F.C.C., Applicant is adding two (2) cell sites which will extend service to Jasper, Hampton, and Beaufort Counties located in RSA No. 8. All construction work done by Applicant under its interim operating authority is at the risk of Applicant should permanent authority not be granted to the Applicant.

5. The extension of service sought by Applicant extends only to a portion of MSA No. 8. The proposed extension would be only for Jasper, Hampton, and Beaufort Counties.

6. The F.C.C has already approved Metronet's Application for Interim Authority at the Federal level.

7. The extension of service area as requested by the Company should be granted.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The Application of South Carolina Metronet for an extension of its cellular service area on an interim basis into the Jasper, Hampton, and Beaufort Counties in RSA No. 8 is hereby granted.

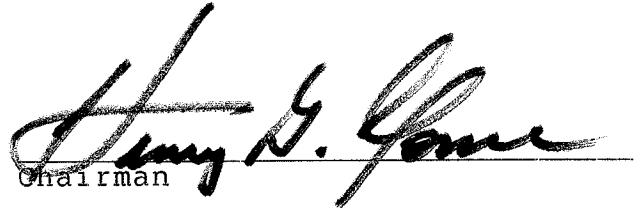
2. The grant of authority is on an interim basis only and will expire when the F.C.C. licenses a permanent non-wireline carrier for RSA No. 8.

3. Any and all construction work performed under interim operating authority is done at Metronet's risk.

4. Metronet is required to comply with the contingencies associated with its F.C.C. interim authority.

5. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)